Progress of the Negro – 1926

JUL 22 1926

## PROGRESS OF THE NEGROES

(Columbus Enquirer-Sun.)

R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Institute, for the education of Negroes, succeeded Booker T. Washington, and he has held to the high standard that was set by his predecessor for the institution of which he is now the head. Indeed, it is doubtful if it would be overestimating the usefulness of Mr. Moton to say that the Institute is making greater progress now than in former years.

When Booker Washington died and Major Moton succeeded him as head of the Tuskegee Institute, he also, succeeded him as president of the National Negro Business Men's League, which position he now holds. This organization keeps itself informed concerning the progress of the Negro in business, and recently Major Moton made public some interesting figures in relation to the growth and development of the Negro race in business during the past twenty-five years. **Among other things** the following excerpt is taken from the summary:

"When the league was organized 25 years ago there were in existence about 20,000 Negro business enterprises, little and big; now there are quite 70,000. Twenty-five years ago there were 250 drug stores; there are today more than 900. Then 450 undertaking establishments were conducted by Negroes; there are 1,558 today. When the league was organized there were but two banks; now there are 74. We boasted 25 years ago of 10,000 retail merchants; we can boast today of 25,000. In 1900 we paid taxes on property valued at $300,000,000; our realty holdings alone today are worth $1,700,000,000."

This record is remarkable. It shows a wonderful increase in the holdings that have been acquired by the Negroes during the period mentioned. That the Negro has labored against considerable odds no one will deny, but he has progressed despite many handicaps. He has overcome in a notable degree the handicaps under which he has striven for advancement and he is deserving of much credit for the success that has attended his efforts.

There is probably throughout the country today a better understanding between the white and blacks than has ever been before. It is true, as the Albany Herald says, there is here and there, both North and South, between the two races an occasional friction due to the lack of sensible leadership in one or both. Indeed, most white people are glad to see deserving blacks acquire property and own their homes, because it is generally conceded that the home-owner, whether he be white or black, feels and manifests a far greater interest in the affairs of his community, his county, his state and his country than he who lives at one place one year and at another place another. Home-owning, property-owning, begets a feeling of responsibility, and the black man appreciates it as much as the white man, although he may not be able to accomplish as much as the white man, at whose door opportunity may more often knock. Along this line of thought the Albany Herald makes this comment:

"Southern white people like to see the colored man owning his home or his farm, making a success of a store or other business. A number of Negro banks have proved successful, and it is a significant fact that whereas the total value of all property returned by Negroes for taxation a quarter of a century ago was but $300,000,000, members of that race now own realty which alone has a value of $1,700,000,000.

"We have said before that the citizen who owns property is usually a better citizen than one who owns none—a fact which seems to be strikingly demonstrated in the experience of the colored man in the United States."

Those of us who have observed the Negro when he is industrious and attempting to accumulate something, have rarely found him in trouble—in the toils of the law—because he knows he has something at stake; and that his time is better employed in looking after his own affairs than it would be if he should be meddling where he had no business.

The Negro man who owns a farm in the country, even though it be a small one, is found, usually, early and late at work on his land. He is undertaking to grow crops that will furnish him with food and feed as well as making something to offer on the market. And he is attempting, for the most part, to rear his children in such fashion as to keep them out of trouble.

It is a pleasure to note the success of deserving Negroes and to commend them for their praiseworthy efforts. We should be glad for a much larger number of them to be in this class.

## The Black Man's Progress.

Whatever may be said about the capacity of the Native mind there is no getting away from the fact that the Native has a remarkable ability for absorbing the White man's civilisation. Evidence of this is found under our own eyes every day. It is in America, however, where the Negro people have had the advantage of intimate contact with a progressive civilisation, that the Black man has demonstrated his ability to profit by education and other facilities for improving his lot. We called attention recently in these columns to what had been accomplished in 50 years, but is it generally realised that the Black man is able to hold his own in so many spheres where for long years the White man has held a virtual monopoly. The Negro Year Book, which has recently been issued by the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, is a valuable compendium of information on matters affecting the life of the Black man, and gives a useful comprehensive statement of historical and statistical facts. Many of the facts will certainly surprise the people in South Africa who know little of what has been achieved by the Negro in America. It is not without significance that a year book of this kind, a volume of 540 pages, should be the work of persons of Negro blood, from the preparation of the material to the actual printing and binding of the pages.

### LAND AND PROPERTIES HELD.

The eye is caught and held for a moment in scanning the contents pages by such headings as Negro in the Theatrical World, Music, Painters, Sculptors, Poets, Sports, Inventions. In the well-written survey of events affecting Negroes it is stated that property holdings are increasing each year by more than fifty million dollars. The lands owned now amount to more than 34,000 square miles, an area greater than that of the five New England States (New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island). One Negro farmer, using up-to-date methods, has an income of 6,000 dollars a year from a 12-acre farm on which he specialises in truck farming. At a big conference of Negro farmers it was indicated that the day of the ox in farming had passed. "One was struck by the intelligent way in which they discussed the problems which are now confronting the farmers of the country in general; as, for example, the marketing problem, the problem of combating the boll weevil. Their discussion of the preparation of fertilisers and the chemistry involved therein is an indication of this growing intelligence." And this improvement in Negro farming did not come in any magical fashion, but by the steady, patient teaching in farm and rural home improvements "by the 275 Negro agricultural farm and home demonstration agents working throughout the South." Work of this kind has had highly beneficial results.

### NEED OF TRAINING IN AGRICULTURE.

There is no need to emphasise how wasteful and inefficient are the methods of the Native agriculturist in this country. But can anything better be expected without instruction, when it is remembered that for centuries it has been the custom merely to scratch the surface soil by way of farming! If, as it is so often asserted, the Natives must make better use of the land they have then they will have to be taught how to do it. Such instruction must ultimately prove of value to the whole community, White and Black. Production will increase, prices will be more satisfactory, more money will be put into circulation, and a higher standard of living will be possible. That is the plain lesson which comes to us from America. Progressive Natives among us have urged of late that the Government should make some provision for loans to Native farmers. In the South of America, Federal Land Banks advance farm loans through Negro farm loan associations and through White associations. The 16 Negro farm loan associations in the States of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi have been granted loans aggregating 1,130,000 dollars.

### NEGROES IN BUSINESS.

The Negro is active in the business world. The National Negro Insurance Association represents 35 Negro companies with 200,000,000 dollars' worth of insurance in force on the lives of 1,100,000 persons. Negro banks do an annual business of about 100,000,000 dollars. The business enterprises include produce dealing, storekeeping, furniture - making, sawmills, hotel-keeping, building, real estate agencies, coal dealing, clothing factories, cafes, and motor car garages. From an employee the Negro is passing to an employer, and in doing so he is affording evidence of energy, ability, application and executive capacity. He is building up his own newspaper press. All over the country there are newspapers controlled, edited and published by Coloured persons for Coloured readers. Negro press agencies are also in existence. Negro authors are a rapidly-growing band. Negro music is developing. A few poets, painters and sculptors are leading the way for others. Some of the State Legislatures have admitted Negro members, and certain highly-paid Federal offices are held by persons of colour.

## PROGRESS INEVITABLE.

While it is true that not even half a dozen swallows make a summer, and that the very advanced members of a race must not be regarded as typical of the majority, yet the facts quoted go to show that the Negro has made good use of the freedom which came to him half a century or so ago, and that he is still advancing. Manifestly, he is making a serious and determined effort to master modern civilisation and to make it is his own. Such a movement cannot possibly be kept back by any artificial means since it is the surge of vital forces that must have outlet and expression in appropriate fashion if the peace of the body politic is to be preserved. In this country we shall never succeed in holding back the onward march of Native progress by raising a barrier here and another there. Such attempts will only arouse resentment and create a fiercer determination than ever to push forward. Our best and strongest safeguards as a White race will be found in strengthening character, promoting efficiency and in dealing out even-handed justice to all sections. The White man of character will have nothing to fear from an educated, progressive Native. It is the lazy, the incompetent, the shiftless and the weak-charactered Whites that are likely to be passed in the race of life.

# PROGRESS IN SOUTH SHOWN BY NEWSPAPER

Chicago Defender

## Savannah News Prints Special Edition

11-6-26

Chicago, Ill.

The business enterprises of our Race contributed a large amount of advertisement to the special 92-page edition of the Savannah Morning News, issue of Oct. 28. This paper consisted of advertistments and stories dealing with the progress of business in the state of Georgia. Among the leading advertisers in this paper are enterprises of our Race, including some of the leading banks in the country. Among the banks and financial institutions carrying advertistment space in the paper were the Wage Earners Savings bank, the Savannah Savings & Real Estate corporation and the Mechanics Savings bank. These banks carried in their advertistments the pictures of their modern office buildings and also certified statements as to their financial standing.

### "Largest in South"

The Wage Earners Savings bank is not only the largest bank of our group in the South, but is the largest of our Race in the world and one of the most conservatively managed in the country. With resources of over a million and a half dollars and more than 30,000 depositors scattered throughout the country, because it is one of the few banks of the country that uses the "banking by mail" system. This bank has done more for our Race than any other institution in the country. By lending assistance to different Race businesses throughout the coutnry it has helped many of our young men to find employment in business.

The Wage Earners Savings bank, according to the Savannah News, is one of the few banks in the state which handles the United States revenue stamps for cigars and tobacco. L. E. Williams has had the management of this bank in his hands as president for more than 25 years.

The Savannah Savings & Real Estate corporation under the direction of Walter S. Scott shows its assets at $540,901.77 with more than $336,889 held for depositors.

The Mechanics Savings bank, with P. Edward Perry as its president, has an authorized capital of $100,000, with nearly $200,000 in resources.

### All Experienced Officers

The officers and directors of these banks are all conservative and experienced business men. This fact is best attested by the wonderful growth of the banking institutions in the city of Savannah and progress being made by our citizens in business. The banks have given aid to the mass of our people in demonstrating to the South and to the country that our people are able to look after themselves in their home and business life.

**GROWTH BY YEARS**

| Year | | Resources |
|---|---|---|
| 1900 | (commenced business) | $ 102.00 |
| 1901 | | 1,144.00 |
| 1902 | | 2,462.03 |
| 1903 | | 11,637.37 |
| 1904 | | 14,587.63 |
| 1905 | | 20,897.28 |
| 1906 | | 35,749.51 |
| 1907 | | 67,966.90 |
| 1908 | | 70,553.58 |
| 1909 | | 78,085.04 |
| 1910 | | 102,874.88 |
| 1911 | | 116,368.08 |
| 1912 | | 214,229.09 |
| 1913 | | 221,424.22 |
| 1914 | | 267,646.58 |
| 1915 | | 302,912.79 |
| 1916 | | 322,766.97 |
| 1917 | | 370,767.96 |
| 1918 | | 538,019.74 |
| 1919 | | 779,285.38 |
| 1920 | | 1,034,532.11 |
| 1921 | | 1,059,046.43 |
| 1922 | | 1,100,115.60 |
| 1923 | | 1,113,842.76 |
| 1924 | | 1,172,875.66 |
| 1925 | | 1,218,399.14 |
| 1926 | (Oct. 11, 1926) | 1,305,988.93 |

This bank has built Negro confidence.
It has broadened Negro vision.
It has established Negro integrity.
It has created Negro wealth.
It has increased Negro independence.
Make this your bank.
Five per cent interest paid on savings deposits.
Six per cent interest paid on time certificates of deposit.

Trend

Pittsburgh Courier
May 29 26.

The present estimated wealth of Negroes in the United States is $2,000,000,000, according to a recent survey made for the Research Section of the American Socialogical Society by Dr. Monroe N. Work, of Tuskogee Institute. The wealth of the groupe, in 1912, was estimated at $700,000,000. The race has also made decided gains in the matter of health. The death rate, which was 22.9 per thousand in 1912, has now fallen to 15.7, or a decrease of 31 per cent.

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ST. LOUIS, MO., ARGUS
MAY 14, 1926

## MORE WEALTH FOR RACE

WASHINGTON, May 12.—The present estimated wealth of Negroes in the United States is $2,000,000,000, according to a recent survey made for the Research Section of the American Sociological Society by Dr. Monroe N. Work of Tuskegee Institute. The wealth of the group in 1912, was estimated at $700,000,000. The race has also made decided gains in the matter of health. The death rate, which was 22.9 per thousand in 1912, has now fallen to 15.7, or a decrease of 31 percent.

TUSKOGEE, OK., ~~PHOENIX~~
JULY 3, 1926

## DID YOU KNO[illegible] WEALTH INCREASES?

(Coulmbian Press Bureau)

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Progress of the Negro - 1926

# -:::- Negro Progress

That the Urban League, through its local branches, is aiding Negroes in securing employment and in improving the conditions of the Negro workers, is indicated in the report made public by Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive secretary of the league.

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Louisiana Negroes have contributed $271,915 toward the 252 Rosenwald school buildings and seventeen Rosenwald homes for principals and teachers which have been erected in the state, according to Mr. T. H. Harris, state superintendent of education.

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Great plans were set forth at the meeting of the Research Committee in the office of the Community Welfare Federation for an industrial survey to take place in Los Angeles on the order of those being made in other large cities containing a large percentage of colored people.

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The Mamouth Auditorium at the Sesqui-Centennial in Philadelphia was crowded by the attendance of over fifteen thousand spectators who witnessed "Loyalty's Gift" on Monday evening, July 12. It was a feature of not alone the Negro activities but proved to be the stellar exhibition thus far of any event held in the auditorium.

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The bricklayers and masons union of Louisiana, composed exclusively of colored workers, has secured a scale of one dollar and a half an hour after September 16. The records of this union for a number of years indicate that its own announcements of wage scales became wage scales on the date set which is usually six weeks or two months before they are declared effective.

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According to an announcement made by A. C. Faulkner, president of the Liberian Produce Exchange and Chamber of Commerce, at Monrovia, Mrs. Sarah Branch, vice-president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the corporation, will tour the United States in the effort to interest American Negroes, in establishing homesteads in Marshall, Liberia. As an inducement to American Negroes the corporation is offering free transportation to a limited number to sail December 25, 1927.

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The space set aside for the composite exhibit by the Negro race in the Sesqui-Centennial Inter-national Exposition, now being held in Philadelphia, is rapidly being filled with exhibits typifying the advancement of the colored people. Miss Laura Wheeler of Cheyney, Pennsylvania, one of the race's most prominent artist, has given several demonstrations of her art in her symbolic characters on the pillows of each booth. Many types portrayed by the brush of Miss Wheeler, have given a touch of originality to the entire color scheme

The first prize for the best poem written by an undergraduate in an American university has just been awarded to Langston Hughes, for his poem "The House in Taos," a poem written by Mr. Hughes subsequent to the publication of his volume of verse, "The Weary Blues." Last year Countee Cullen won the coveted award. The prize is given each year by Witter Bynner, the well known poet, and is one of the most important awards made in the United States. Entries are received from practically every college and university in the country, the number received usually exceeding three thousand

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A census taken by the recently reorganized branch of the National Negro Business League has revealed that there are more than six hundred Negroes engaged in various kinds of business in Jacksonville, Florida. There are many other Negroes doing other kinds of business, such as soliciting, collecting and promoting, but do not maintain places.

The surprising part of this is the fact that the local whites here are doing much to encourage the Negro business men of the city in their efforts.

More farm boys and girls in college. This is an integral part of any sound program for the permanent betterment of agriculture, Mr. W. M. Jardine, secretary of agriculture, asserted in a recent statement.

"Agriculture grows more complex every year," said Secretary Jardine. "It needs trained men and women to meet its problems. The same thing is true of every other field of work. America is calling constantly for leadership in every line and leadership comes mainly from the ranks of college men and women.

"The enrollment in agriculture courses diminished twenty-six per cent from 1914-1915 to 1925-1926. First there was the war, which drew a vast number of young men into the army and into essential industries. Then the period of post-war prosperity made many hesitate to leave money-making work. The agricultural depression shortly thereafter produced a general tendency away from preparation for farming.

"Agricultural enrollments in col-

school conducted for colored youth by the Catholic Church and is located at Ridge, Maryland. Mr. Victor Daniel, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, is principal.

Mr. Wood has for thirty years been connected with Tuskegee Institute during which time he has acquired valuable experience in school administration. He has earned the B. D. and M. A. degrees from Beloit College, Maine; the B. S. and M. A. degrees from the Teachers' College, Columbia University and the B. D. degree from Chicago University. The trustees of the Cardinal Gibbons Institute are confident that Mr. Wood will make a valuable asset to the board because of his full training and wide experience in the educational field.

Admiral William S. Benson, United States Shipping Board, is chairman of the Institute Board of Trustees. Other prominent members of the board are Senator David L. Walsh of Massachusetts; Mr. Hollingsworth Wood of New York City; Miss Nannie Burroughs of Washington, D. C. and Mr. Thomas W. Turner of Hampton Institute, Virginia.

WILLOWS, CAL., TRANSCRIPT
MAY 15, 1926

## U. S. NEGROES WEALTHY

The presnt estimated wealth of Negroes in the United States is $2,000,000,000, according to a recent survey made for the Research Section of the American Sociological Society by Dr. Monroe N. Work, of Tuskegee Institute. The wealth of the group, in 1912, was estimated at $700,000,000. The race has also made deiided gains in the matter of health. The deth rate, which was 22.9 per thousand in 1912, has now fallen to 15.7, or a ecrease of 31 per cent.

## NEGROES OWN TWO BILLIONS

With increasing wealth and lower death rate, the Negro problem does not seem to be solving itself, but is one of several great questions which must be answered in this country during the next half century.

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Wasta, S. D., Gazette
THURSDAY, MAY 20, 192

The present estimated wealth of the negroes in United States is $2,000,000,000, according to Dr. Monroe N. Work of Tuskegee Institute.

## NO RACE FRICTION IN HOLLYWOOD

Los Angeles, Cal., July 3—(A. N. P).—In the light of the segregation agitation here and in all the principal cities, it is interesting to note that there is one little settlement of Negroes called "Hollywood Colony" that has never had the slightest friction with the whites among whom they live. Perhaps it is on account of the intelligence and magnanimity of the white neighbors; perhaps because of the number of Japanese families also living in this district accustoming them to the invasion of the darker races, but nevertheless, to date there has never been any open objection to the race families who have bought and settled out in this suburb so far separated from the closely inhabited Colored section of the East Side. The oldest settlers of the Hollywood Colony are the Dr. Leonard Stovalls, 1300 Fleming St., corner of Sunset Boulevard, who settled there some twenty years ago when Hollwood was little more than a forest of gum and Eucalyptus trees. Later came the Kelsores, fifteen years ago, and the Shankles ten years ago.

The two Johnson families, Spencers, Paines, Burdettes, Olivers and Fowlers have bought and lived here for from five to ten years. About twenty-five or thirty other Colored families are located on Fleming families are located on Fleming and North Hoover, Commonwealth and Virgil.

## MEXICO WILL ADMIT COLORED AMERICANS

Pacific Coast News Bureau

MEXICALI, Lower California, Mex., Nov. 7—After a recent conference with American Consul Bohr, Adolfo Miranda, chief of the immigration service in Mexicali whose recent order barring Negroes from entry into Mexico for longer than a 9 hour period created national attention, modified his original order by stating that reputable Black Americans will be granted border permits which will entitle them to cross at any and all hours, provided they present letters of recommendation vouching for their character and their employment if employed on the Mexican side.

### American Counsul Investigates

In his conference with Mr. Miranda the American Consul was assured that every facility would be offered to so handle the regulations that no unnecessary hardship might be imposed upon the respectable law abiding Black American.

Wall, S. D., Record
THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1926

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15, 1926

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Quinn, S. D., Star
THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1926

The present estimated wealth of the negroes in United States is $2,000,000,000, according to Dr. Monroe N. Work of Tuskegee Institute.

Two colored men who had just reduced the population in a farmer's henroost, were making a speedy getaway.

"Laws, Mose," gasped Sam, "why you s'pose them flies follows us so close?"

"Keep gallopin' man," said Mose, "them ain't flies. Them's buckshot."

"Why do you want Limburger cheese packed in your lunch?" asked father.

"Because, papa," answered the truthful little son, "I want the teacher to send me home."

Not doing more than the average is what keeps the average man down.

Did you know that pork and beef were often receivable for taxes during early settlement of America.

A New Jersey court has held that a man has a legal right to rule his home. Yes, and he also has a legal right to fight a buzz saw.

St. Anthony, Idaho, Chronicle
MAY [illegible], 1926

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[illegible] MO TELEGRAM
MAY 7, 1926

Negroes in U. S. Wealthy.

Washington, D. C.—The present estimated wealth of Negroes in the United States is $2,000,000,000, according to a recent survey made for the Research Section of the American Sociological Society by Dr. Monroe N. Work, of Tuskegee Institute. The wealth of the group, in 1912, was estimated at $700,000,000. The race has also made decided gains in the matter of health. The death rate, which was [illegible] per thousand in 1912, has now fallen to 15.7, or a decrease of 31 per cent.

[illegible] 1926

## TUSKEGEE HEAD SAYS NEGROES ARE MAKING PROGRESS

Tuskegee, Ala., June 26.—(United Press)—Opportunities for Negroes in the South to purchase homes and lands are greater now than at any other time, Dr Robert R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, believes.

Dr. Morton has come in contact with the most vital conditions among Negroes of the South, and expressed himself as confident that the Negroes' condition is improving steadily.

The educational standards of the south for both races, he declared, are on an upward trend.

[illegible] JUN[illegible] 1926

## NEGRO PROGRESS.

Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, is one of the sanest educators and leaders of his race. When he succeeded Booker T. Washington as head of Tuskegee he also fell heir to the presidency of the National Negro Business Men's League, a position which he continues to hold. This organization keeps close tab on the progress of the negro in business, industry and education, and recently Dr. Moton made public this interesting summary of progress in a quarter of a century:

When the league was organized 25 yeras ago there were in existence about 20,000 negro business enterprises, little and big; now there are quite 70,000. Twenty-five years ago there were 250 drug stores; there are today more than 900. Then 450 undertaking establishments were conducted by negroes; there are 1558 today. When the league was organized there were but two banks; now there are 74. We boasted 25 years ago of 10,000 retail merchants; we can boast today of 25,000. In 1900 we paid taxes on property valued at $300,000,000; our realty holdings alone today are worth $1,700,000,000.

Despite occasional friction between whites and blacks in communities where sensible leadership is lacking in one or both races, the relations between the white man and the colored man have shown steady improvement in recent years. In Dr. Moton's summary of his race's progress, he indicates one of the reasons for such progress, for he shows how members of his race have bettered their condition in practical ways.

Southern white people like to see the colored man owning his home or his farm, making a success of a store or other business. A number of negro banks have proved successful, and it is a significant fact that whereas the total value of all property returned by negroes for taxation a quarter of a century ago was but $300,000,000, members of that race now own realty which alone has a value of $1,700,000,000.

We have said before that the citizen who owns property is usually a better citizen than one who owns none—a fact which seems to be strikingly demonstrated in the experience of the colored man in the United States.

CHICAGO ILL. NEWS
JUNE 24, 1926

## THE TENTH AMERICAN.

Statistically speaking, every tenth American is a Negro. It is important that the other nine-tenths of the population should know how their 10,500,000 fellow Americans are faring educationally, economically and physically. For the story of their advancement is marvelous.

On the occasion of the recent forty-fifth annual national convention at Baltimore of colored Baptists—comprising 3,000,000 of the Negroes of the country—the Manufacturers' Record took occasion to describe the meeting and to present a report of Negro achievements. It made known that the accumulated wealth of Negroes had increased from $20,000,000 in 1886 to $1,500,000,000 in 1920. The Negro race supplies one-seventh of all the workers in the United States, including one-third of all iron and steel workers and one-tenth of all railroad workers. Negroes operate 1,000,000 farms, one-fourth of which they own. Annually nearly 1,000 Negroes receive the degree of bachelor of arts or of science from universities and colleges. Church membership has so increased since emancipation that the percentage is higher than that for the general population.

Greater progress toward the solution of the race problem is being made in this country now than ever before. The basis of it is good will, and good will is built on respect. Certainly the Negro race deserves respect for its achievements and for the earnestness with which it is striving for further progress.

To-morrow the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People meets in convention in Chicago. That admirable organization, which bly champions the rights of Negroes, teaches the ound doctrine that justice demanded and obtained essential to the welfare of the race. Chicago, hich has a large and progressive Negro elemen s population, is glad to welcome the associatio o commend its useful and enlightened work

Progress of the Negro - 1926

JAN 22 1926

## HOW THE NEGRO HAS UTILIZED HIS FREEDOM

### In Sixty Years Members of the Colored Race Have Made Notable Progress

Just 60 years ago—on December 18, 1865—the thirteenth amendment to the constitution was adopted, making slavery unconstitutional in the United States. The emancipation proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863, but since it applied only to persons then held as slaves in the states in "rebellion," and even excepted certain areas in some of these states, the real freedom of the negro dates from the adoption of the thirteenth amendment.

When freed in 1865 American negroes owned 12,000 homes and operaed 20,000 farms. Now they own 700,000 homes and operate 1,000,000 farms. Then they conducted 2,100 businesses; now they conduct 70,000. Meantime their aggregate wealth has increased from $20,000,000 to $2,000,000,000, or 100 times as much.

In 1924 there were 73 negro banks with $6,250,000 capital, and $20,000,000 of resources, and an annual business of $100,000,000.

Thirty-five negro life insurance companies report $200,000,000 of insurance in force on the lives of 1,100,000 persons. These companies have 8,000 employes and are wholly capitalized by negroes.

One of these companies, the North Carolina Mutual, has moret han $42,000,000 of insurance in force and a annual income of over $2,000,000. The Bankers Fire Insurance company of Durham, N. C., has nearly $10,000,000 of insurance in force.

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Members of colored churches contribute annually $550,000 to home and foreign missions.

Negroes have contributed nearly $350,000 toward the erection of colored Y. M. C. A. buildings in 14 cities.

The Olivet Baptist church in Chicago is said to be the largest Protestant congregation in the world, having a membership of 10,000. It carries on an extensive community program, having 53 departments and employing 30 paid workers. It's annual operating budget is about $50,000.

In 1865 90 percent of the negroes were illiterate; now about 20 percent Then there were 100,000 negroes in school; now 2,150,000.

There are in the United States about 10,000 negro college graduates Six hundred and seventy-five received the bachelor's degree last year.

The degree of doctor of philosophy has been awarded to 29 negroes by American universities. Sixty have been elected to membership in the Phi Beta Kappa scholarship fraternity.

Through their churches and otherwise negroes raise annually $3,000,000 for the support of their schools.

A number of negroes have recently given to negro colleges sums ranging from $5,000 to $25,000 each.

More than 100 volumes of negro poetry have been published in America.

Countee P. Cullen, of New York, in 1923 and again in 1924 won second prize in the Witter Rynner under graduate poetry contest, open to all colleges of America and participated in by 700 students, representing 300 institutions.

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Helen Perry, of Chicago, won the third prize of $500 in a $30,000 national scenario contest conducted by the Chicago Daily News. There were 27,000 entries in the contest.

The French government has purchased and hung in the Luxemburg gallery a number of paintings by Henry O. Tanner.

Roland Haynes, Georgia negro, has attained international fame as a tenor, hving sung with great success before the most critical audiences of America and Europe, including the king and queen of England and the queen mother of Spain.

Harry T. Burleigh, baritone, has for 20 years been a soloist in one of the leading Episcopal churches of New York.

JAN 14 1926

# COLORED RACE HAS MADE GREAT PROGRESS IN THE LAST SIXTY YEARS

**Just 60 years ago—on December 18, 1865—the thirteenth amendment to the constitution was adopted, making slavery unconstitutional in the United States. The emancipation proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863, but since it applied only to persons then held as slaves in the states in 'rebellion," and even excepted certain areas in some of these states, the real freedom of the negro dates from the adoption of the thirteenth amendment.**

**When freed in 1865 American negroes owned 12,000 homes and operated 20,000 farms. Now they own 700,000 homes and operate 1,000,000 farms. Then they conducted 2,100 businesses; now they conduct 70,000. Meantime their aggregate wealth has increased from $20.000,000 to $2 000.000,000, 100 times as much.**

**In 1924 there were 73 negro banks with $6,250,000 capital, and $20,000,000 of resources, and an annual business of 0100,000,000.**

**Thirty-five negro life insurance companies report 0200,000,000 o insurance in force on the lives of 1,100,000 persons. These companies have 8,000 employes and we are wroly capitalized by negroes.**

**One of these companies, the North Carolina Mutual, has more than $42,000,000 of insurance in force and an annual income of over $2,000,000. The Bankers Fire Insurance Company, of Durham, N. C., has nearly 10,000,000 of insurance in force.**

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**The 332,000 negro members of the ethodist Episcopal church in five ars contributed $1,941,979 to the ntenary fund of the church.**

**Negroes have contributed nearly $350,000 toward the erection of colored Y. M. C. A. buildings in ( 14 cities.**

**The Olive Baptist church in Chicago is said to be the largest Protestant congregation in the world, having a membership of 10,000. It carries on an ex ensive community program, having 53 departments and employing 30 paid workers. Its annual operating budget is about $50,000.**

**Illiteracy Sweepingly Reduced**

**In 1865 90 per cent of the negroes were illiterate; now about 20 per cent. Then there were 100,000 negroes in school; now 2,150,000.**

**There are in the United States about 10,000 negro college graduates. Six hundred and seventy-five received the bachelor's degree last year.**

**The degree of doctor of philosophy has been awarded to 29 negroes by American universities. Sixty have been elected to membership in the Phi Beta Kappa scholarship fraternity.**

**Through their churches and otherwise negroes raise annually $3,000,000 for the support of their schools.**

**A number of negroes have recently given to negro collections sums ranging from $5 000 to $25,000 each.**

**Enter Field of Literature**

**More than 100 volumes of negro poetry have been published in America.**

**Countee P. Cullen, of New York, in 1923 and again in 1924 won second prize in the Witter Rynner undergraduate poetry contest, open to all colleges of America and participated in by 700 students, representing 300 institutions.**

**Isaac Fisher, of Nashville, Tenn., has won five literary prizes in open national contests, one a prize of $500 offered by Everybody's Magazine for the best article on prohibition.**

**Helen Perry, of Chicago, won the third prize of $500 in a $30,000 national scenario contest conducted by the Chicago Daily News. There were 27,000 entries in the contest.**

**The French government has purchased and hung in the Luxemburg gallery a number of paintings by Henry O. Tanner.**

**Make Mark as Vocalists**

**Roland Haynes, Georgia negro, has attained international fame as a tenor, having sung with great success before the most critical audience of America and Europe, including the king and queen of England and the queen mother of Spain.**

**Harry T. Burleigh, baritone, has for 20 years been a soloist in one of the leading Episcopal churches of New York.**

# How Has the Negro Used His Freedom?

## By Robert B. Eleazer

Educational Director, Commission on Interracial Co-operation.

SIXTY years ago—on December 18, to be exact—the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution was adopted making slavery unconstitutional in the United States. The Emancipation Proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863, but since it applied only to persons then held as slaves in the States "in rebellion," and even excepted certain areas in some of those States, the real freedom of the Negro dates from the adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment. The present is a fitting time to ask what use the race has made of its freedom in the intervening years. Here are a few highlights from the story:

### Economic Advance.

When freed, in 1865, American Negroes owned 12,000 homes and operated 20,000 farms. Now they own 700,000 homes and operate a million farms. Then they conducted 1,100 businesses; now they conduct 70,000. Meantime, their aggregate wealth has increased from $20,000,000 to $2,000,000,000, one hundred times as much.

In 1924 there were 73 Negro banks, with $6,250,000 capital, $20,000,000 of resources, and an annual business of $100,000,000.

Thirty-five Negro life insurance companies report $200,000,000 of insurance in force on the lives of 1,100,000 persons. These companies have 8,000 employees and are wholly capitalized and managed by Negroes.

One of these companies, the North Carolina Mutual, has more than $42,000,000 of insurance in force and an annual income of over $2,000,000. The Bankers' Fire insurance Company of Durham, N. C., has nearly $10,000,000 of insurance in force.

### Invention and Industry.

Elijah McCoy, Detroit inventor, has taken out fifty-seven patents in America and ten in Europe. The universally used lubricating cup for machinery is one of his inventions. Altogether, thousands of patents have been issued to colored inventors.

In 1920 there were in America 332,249 Negroes engaged in skilled and semi-skilled occupations.

A big textile mill at La Grange, Ga., uses Negro labor almost exclusively; also a hosiery mill at Durham, N. C. Altogether, more than 20,000 Negroes are employed in textile industries.

During the Great War a number of world records for industrial processes were broken by Negro workers.

### Religion.

There are in the United States 47,000 Negro churches, with 5,000,000 members, and 46,000 Sunday schools enrolling 3,000,000 pupils.

Members of colored churches contribute annually $550,000 to home and foreign missions.

The 332,000 Negro members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in five years contributed $1,941,979 to the Centenary Fund of that church.

Negroes have contributed nearly $350,000 toward the erection of colored Y. M. C. A. buildings in fourteen cities.

The Olivet Baptist Church of Chicago is said to be the largest congregation in the world, having a membership of 10,000. It carries on an extensive community program, having fifty-three departments and employing thirty paid workers. Its annual operating budget is about $50,000.

### Education.

In 1865 ninety per cent of the Negroes were illiterate; now about twenty per cent. Then there were 100,000 Negroes in school; now 2,150,000.

There are in the United States about 10,000 Negro college graduates. Six hundred and seventy-five received the bachelor's degree last year.

The degree of doctor of philosophy has been awarded to twenty-nine Negroes by American universities. Sixty have been elected to membership in the Phi Beta Kappa scholarship fraternity.

In four years' work, Eunice Hunton took both the A. B. and A. M. degrees at Smith College, Mass., the largest girls' college in the world. Only one other student at Smith has ever equalled this record.

H. S. Blackstone received the degree of Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania at the age of twenty-three, one of the youngest students ever receiving this degree.

Constance Crocker finished from the Girls' High School in Boston at the head of a class of 308.

Archibald Carey, Chicago high-school student, was awarded first place and a prize of $1,000 in the District Oratorical Contest for high-school students, including several States.

Through their churches and otherwise Negroes raise annually $3,000,000 for the support of their schools.

A number of Negroes have recently given to Negro colleges sums ranging from $5,000 to $25,000 each.

### Literature and Art.

More than a hundred volumes of Negro poetry have been published in America.

Countee P. Cullen of New York, in 1923 and again in 1924, won second prize in the Witter Bynner undergraduate poetry contest, open to all colleges of America and participated in by 700 students representing 300 institutions.

Prof. Isaac Fisher of Nashville, Tenn., has won five literary prizes in open national contests, one a prize of $500 offered by Everybody's Magazine for the best article on prohibition.

Helen Perry of Chicago won the third prize of $500 in a $30,000 National Scenario Contest conducted by the Chicago Daily News. There were 27,000 entries in the contest.

E. M. Bannister of Providence, R. I., attained distinction as a painter and founded the Providence Art Club.

The French Government has purchased and hung in the Luxemburg Gallery a number of paintings by Henry O. Tanner.

King D. Gannaway of Chicago won first honors in the annual Wanamaker Art Exhibit in Philadelphia, in which there were 900 exhibitors.

Paul Robeson, Negro actor, has recently achieved remarkable success in America and in England in the role of "Emperor Jones."

### Music.

Roland Hayes, Georgia Negro, has attained international fame as a tenor, having sung with great success before the most critical audiences of America and Europe, including the King and Queen of England and the Queen Mother of Spain.

Harry T. Burleigh, baritone, has for twenty years been a soloist in one of the leading Episcopal churches of New York.

Marion Anderson, colored contralto, appeared during the season of 1923-24 as soloist with the Philadelphia Philharmonic Society.

J. Rosamond Johnson has composed light operas for Klaw & Erlanger and many popular songs for May Irwin, Lillian Russell, and Anna Held.

### The Negro and the Flag.

During the Spanish American War Negro troops in the Regular Army distinguished themselves at the battles of Guasimas, El Caney and San Juan Hill.

Three hundred and eighty thousand American Negroes were enrolled for service in the World War, of whom 200,000 were sent to France. They were the first of the American Expeditionary Force to get into action, and two Negroes of the 369th Infantry were the first American soldiers decorated for bravery.

The Croix de Guerre was awarded to four entire Negro regiments for heroism in action. One of these, the 370th, was commanded entirely by Negroes, with the exception of the colonel. Thirty officers of this regiment received medals of honor for bravery. Altogether, some sixty Negro officers were so decorated.

### Science, Exploration, Athletics.

Prof. George Carver of Tuskegee Institute is perhaps the best-known agricultural chemist in America and has developed hundreds of products that promise untold value to the South and the nation.

Matthew A. Henson was with Commodore Robert A. Peary in his discovery of the North Pole and in seven other Polar expeditions. He was selected, according to Peary, for his adaptability, fitness and loyalty.

Three Negro athletes were among the American representatives in the 1924 Olympic games in Paris. One of them, DeHart Hubbard, won the broad jump with a record of 24 feet 6 inches. He has since beaten his own record with a leap of more than 25 feet.

In the years 1919-1924, the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission awarded medals to six Negroes for deeds of heroism and sacrifice.

"Who's Who in America" for 1925 lists eighty-one Negroes in its roster of distinguished Americans.

These are but random paragraphs from a story that led Ambassador James Bryce some years ago to assert that, in an equal length of time, no other race had ever made such progress. Contemplating the same record, a well-known Southerner recently said:

"The Negro is not a menace to America. He has proved himself worthy of confidence. He has been and may continue to be a blessing. He only needs unnecessary barriers removed from his way and a chance to demonstrate that under God he is a man and can play a man's part."

Progress of the Negro-1926

THE AMERICAN NEGRO PROGRESSES.

The present estimated wealth of negroes in the United States is $2,000,000,000, according to a recent survey made for the Research section of the American Sociological society by Dr. Monroe N. Work, of Tuskegee institute. The wealth of the group, in 1912, was estimated at $700,000,000. The race has also made decided gains in the matter of health. The death rate, which was 22.9 per thousand in 1912, has now fallen to 15.7, or a decrease of 31 per cent.

The American negro is to be congratulated upon his excellent progress.

RAHWAY N. J. RECORD
MAY 11, 1926

## Negro Wealth $2,000,000,000

The present estimated wealth of Negroes in the United States is $2,000,000,000, according to a recent survey made for the Research Section of the American Sociological Society by Dr. Monroe N. Work, of Tuskegee Institute. The wealth of the group, in 1912, was estimated at $700,000,000. The race has also made decided gains in the matter of health. The death rate, which was 22.9 per thousand in 1912, has now fallen to 15.7, or a decrease of 31 per cent.

WILMINGTON DEL JOURNAL
MAY 7, 1926

### NEGROES AND WEALTH

HERE are some facts and figures which should interest Negroes in Delaware.

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Richmond, Cal., Record Herald
MAY 12, 1926

## HELP YOURSELF BY HELPING THE CITY OFFICIALS.

*—From Denver's Municipal Calendar*

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SHREVEPORT LA. JOURNAL
MAY 8, 1926

## NEGRO WEALTH ESTIMATED AT $20,000,00

WASHINGTON, April 29—The present estimated wealth of Negroes in the United States is two billion dollars, according to a recent survey made for the Research section of the American Sociological Society by Dr. Monroe N. Work, of Tuskegee Institute. The wealth of the group in 1912, was estimated at seven hundred million dollars. The race has also made decided gains in the matter of health. The death rate, which was 22.9 per thousand in 1912 has now fallen to 15.7, or a decrease of 31 per cent.

Volin, S. D., Advance
THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1926

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TOPEKA, KAS., REGISTER
MAY 15, 1926

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LEAVENWORTH KS. TIMES
MAY 11, 1926

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MAY 7, 1926

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Churchs Ferry, N. D., Sun
THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1926

## DECIDED GAIN IN WEALTH & HEALTH AMONG NEGROES

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Kalispell, Mont., Times
THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1926

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Arapahoe, Neb., Mirror
THURSDAY, MAY 6, 192-

## Estimated Wealth Of The Negroes

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EAGLE, COLO., ENTERPRISE
MAY 7, 1926

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HENRYETTA, OK., FREE LANCE
MAY 10, 1926

# THE WEALTH OF THE NEGROES

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Houghton, Mich., Mining-Gazette
THURSDAY, MAY 6, 192-

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Minot, N. D., Independent
THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1926

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Holbrook, Nebr., Observer
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Redfield, S. D., Observer
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Fairmont, Nebr., Chronicle
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Worthing, S. D., Enterprise
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Oldham, S. D., Register.
THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1926

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RIVERSIDE, CAL., PRESS
MAY 7, 1926

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Oakland, Calif
5-13-26

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GOLDFIELD, NEV., TRIBUNE
MAY 7, 1926

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Progress of the Negro – 1926

# DURHAM INTEREST KEEP PACE BY ERECTION OF MANY BUILDINGS DURING PAST YEAR

(P. N. S.)

Durham, N. C., Feb. 6—In a recent address to the Durham Negro Business League, Secretary Burke Hobgood, (white) of the Chamber of Commerce stated that the great difference between the Negro of Durham and [illegible] other cities is that the Negro here is and asset rather than a liability to this community. It is a fact that Durham has set the pace in commercial and industrial development of the American Negro.

For many years Durham has been blessed with having Negro leaders with a vision and the courage to bring it to a successful fulfillment. Ever [illegible] North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company was organized many years ago the eyes of the state have been upon the Durham Negro for the organization of the company was something new in the realm of the business. Since that time there has been steady progress in practically all directions. in building the Negro is doing his part, in the conduct of business he is making a success, and in public movements he is sharing his part of the burden and responsibility.

The year of 1925 was a very successful and good one for the Negroes. From a business standpoint, all of the big enterprises made good gains in business and thousands of dollars were brought to Durham by them. In public spiritedness the members of the Race have been showing the same loyalty and active interest that has been in evidence by the white people. Many new buildings were erected, both dwelling and business. During the year a large realty development and offering to the members of that race excellent home sites, was put underway. In many other ways progress marked the past year.

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This company, through its real estate department, has purchased, promoted and is developing a modern residential section known as College Heights, located between Lincoln hospital and the Negro college, out of which $19,000 in profits were earned during the past year.

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The final measure of the accomplishments of the Durham Negro will be in Negro education. The State legislature has established here the North Carolina College for Negroes, offering a program of full grade "A" college work, including commercial, classical, pre-medical and teacher training courses.

The great need of the institution now is the erection of new buildings. To begin with the plant was not such as to make the school so attractive but many months ago the campus was visited by three disastrous fires which destroyed three of the principal buildings. This gave the college a bad start when it was launched forth as a grade "A" institution. The next session of the legislature will be asked to appropriate the sum of $1,000,00 to be used in a big building program for the school, according to local Negro leaders.

### Club Houses

Recently the John Merrick club was organized by some of the most prominent Negroes of the community and within the near future it is planned to erect a club house, at the cost of approximately $15,000, on Fayetteville street. Durham receives many Colored visitors each year from all sections of the United States. There is at prevent no place to entertain them and it was with this end in view that the club was organized. Several sites have been offered for the club and a committee is now engaged in working out the details. The building will be modern in all particulars.

### Scarborough Home

Within a short time the home for the care of aged and infirm people and orphans of the Negro race will open for reception of inmates. The buildings, part of the old Lincoln hospital property, were purchased by J. C. Scarborough, local Negro, for the establishment of the home in memory of his late wife. The property is valued at around $20,000 The home will include a day nursery, orphanage and old folks home. Trustees have already been appointed and approval of the state welfare department has been given to the plan for the operation of the home. In all probability the old folks department will be the first to be operated.

### Other Features

During the past year the new Lincoln hospital, which cost approximately $250,000 was erected and occupied, giving to the Negroes of Durham what is said to be the finest and the best equipped Negro hospital in the south.

The Y. W. C. A., the public schools, Colored library, the Business Men's League, a Negro theatre corporation, Building and Loan Association, and many other things have their places in the order of things and the program of definite accomplishments.

### Pinned Faith Here

In discussing the tendency of Negroes to go north, C. C. Spaulding, one of the city's leading Negroes, said that, "Durham today offers the greatest opportunity for the Negro men and women that can be found anywhere in this country. At different times within the last 25 years I have watched tendencies among professional and business groups of my people to go, first north, and then west. During that same 25 years my associates and myself continued our program here in the south. I believe sincerely that what we have accomplished in Durham could not have been duplicated in any other section of the country. I believe Durham will be the first city in North Carolina within the next five or ten years," and he declared that the Negroes will do their share of the work in boasting and pushing Durham forward.

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## HOW HAS THE NEGRO USED HIS FREEDOM?

### Slavery Was Abolished in America Just Sixty Years Ago—What Progress the Negro Made Meantime.

By Robert B. Eleazer.

*(This article, sent ot by the Interracial Commission, was published widely by the press on December 18, the anniversary of the adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment.)*

Sixty years ago—on December 18 to be exact—the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution was adopted making slavery unconstitutional in the United States. The Emancipation Proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863 but since it applied only to persons then held as slaves in the States "in rebellion," and even excepted certain areas in some of those States, the real freedom of the Negro dates from the adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment. The present is a fitting time to ask what use the race has made of its freedom in the intervening years. Here are a few highlights from the story:

### Economic Advance.

When freed in 1865, American Negroes owned 12,000 homes and operated 20,000 farms. Now they own 700,000 homes and operate a million farms. Then they conducted 2,100 businesses; now they conduct 70,000. Meantime, their aggregate wealth has increased from $20,000,000 to $2,000,000,000, one hundred times as much.

In 1924 there were 73 Negro banks, with $6,250,000 capital, $20,000,000 of resources, and an annual business of $100,000,000.

Thirty-five Negro life insurance companies report $200,000,000 of insurance in force on the lives of 1,100,000 persons. These companies have eight thousand employees and are wholly

capitalized and managed by Negroes.

One of these companies, the N. C. Mutual, has more than $42,000,000 of insurance in force and an annual income of over $2,000,000. The Bankers Fire Insurance Company, of Durham, N. C., has nearly $10,000,000 of insurance in force.

### Invention and Industry.

Elijah McCoy, Detroit inventor, has taken out fifty-seven patents in America and ten in Europe. The universally used lubricating cup for machinery is one of his inventions. Altogether, thousands of patents have been issued to colored inventors.

In 1920 there were in America 332,249 Negroes engaged in skilled and semi-skilled occupations.

A big textile mill at LaGrange, Ga., uses Negro labor almost exclusively; also a hosiery mill at Durham, N. C. Altogether, more than 20,000 Negroes are employed in textile industries.

During the Great War a number of world records for industrial processes were broken by Negro workers.

### Religion.

There are in the United States 47,000 Negro Churches, with five million members, and 46,000 Sunday Schools enrolling three million pupils.

Members of colored Churches contribute annually $550,000 to home and foreign missions.

The 332,000 Negro members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in five years contributed $1,941,979 to the Centenary Fund of that Church.

Negroes have contributed nearly $350,000 toward the erection of colored Y. M. C. A. buildings in fourteen cities.

The Olivet Baptist Church, of Chicago, is said to be the largest Protestant congregation in the world, having a membership of 10,000. It carries on an extensive community program, having fifty-three departments and employing thirty paid workers. Its annual operating budget is about $50,000.

### Education.

In 1865, ninety per cent of the Negroes were illiterate; now about twenty per cent. Then there were 100,000 Negroes in school; now 2,150,000.

There are in the Untied States about 10,000 Negro college graduates. Six hundred and seventy-five received the Bachelor's degree last year.

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Miss Constance Crocker finished from the Girls' High School in Boston at the head of a class of 308.

Archibald Cary Chicago high school student, was awarded first place and a prize of $1,000 in the District Oratorical Contest for high school students, including several States.

Through their Churches and otherwise, Negroes raise annually $3,000,000 for the support of their schools.

A number of Negroes have recently given to Negro colleges sums ranging from $5,000 to $25,000 each.

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More than a hundred volumes of Negro poetry have been published in America.

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Helen Perry, of Chicago, won the 3rd prize of $500 in a $30,000 National Scenario Contest conducted by the Chicago Daily *News*. There were 27,000 entries in the contest.

E. M. Bannister, of Providence, R. I., attained distinction as a painter and founded the Providence Art Club.

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Marion Anderson, colored contralto, appeared during the season of 1923-24 as soloist with the Philadelphia Philharmonic Society.

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### The Negro and the Flag.

During the Spanish American War, Negro troops in the Regular Army distinguished themselves at the battles of Guasimas, El Caney and San Juan Hill.

Three hundred and eighty thousand American Negroes were enrolled for service in the World War, of whom two hundred thousand were sent to France. They were the first of the American Expeditionary Force to get into action, and two Negroes of the 369th Infantry were the first American soldiers decorated for bravery.

The Croix de Guerre was awarded to four entire Negro regiments for heroism in action. One of these, the 370th, was commanded entirely by Negroes, with the exception of the colonel. Thirty officers of this regiment received medals of honor for bravery. Altogether, some sixty Negro officers were so decorated.

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In the years 1919-1924, the Carnegie Hero Fund Cmmission awarded medals to six Negroes for deeds of heroism and sacrifice.

"Who's Who in America" for 1925 lists eighty-one Negroes in its roster of distinguished Americans.

Contemplating the same record, a well known Southerner recently said: "The Negro is not a menace to America from his way, and a chance, to demonstrate that under God he is a man and proved himself wor- thy of equal James Bryce some years ago to assert that in an equal length of time no other race has been and may continue to be a blessing. He only needs unnecessary barriers removed can play a man's part."

These are but random paragraphs from a story that led Ambassador that in an equal length of time no other race had ever made such progress.

Progress of the Negro - 1926

# INTERESTING STORY TELLS OF PROGRESS NEGRO HAS MADE IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE HE WAS GIVEN DESIRED FREEDOM

## Slavery Was Abolished in America Just Sixty Years Ago and Since That Time Record Shows the Black Man Has Made Most Unusual Strides in Progress—Has Delved Into Numerous Fields With Considerable Success

**By Robert B. Eleazer.**

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 31.—Just 60 years ago—on December 18, 1865—the Thirteenth amendment to the federal constitution was adopted, making slavery unconstitutional in the United States. The Emancipation Proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863, but since it applied only to persons then held as slaves in the States "in rebellion," and even excepted certain areas in some of those states, the real freedom of the negro dates from the adoption of the Thirteenth amendment. The present as a fitting time to ask what use the race has made of its freedom in the intervening years. Here are a few highlights from the story:

**Economic Advance**

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In 1924 there were 73 negro banks, with $6,250,000 capital, $20,000,000 of resources, and an annual business of $100,000,000.

Thirty-five negro life insurance companies report $200,000,000 of insurance in force on the lives of 1,100,000 persons. These companies have 8,000 employes and are wholly capitalized and managed by negroes.

One of the companies, the North Carolina Mutual, has more than $42,000,000 of insurance in force and an annual income of over $2,000,000. The Bankers Fire Insurance company, of Durham, N. C., has nearly $10,000,000 of insurance in force.

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# DURHAM CITIZENS HAVE AMBITIOUS PROGRAM FOR 1926

## All Enterprises Experienced Big Growth During Past Year; Will Erect Many Buildings In New Year, Including Home For Working Girls and Club House.

## POSSIBLE ERECTION OF ONE OR MORE STORIES TO N. C. MUTUAL BUILDING

The Durham (N. C.) Morning Herald, in its issue of January 24th, carried an inspirational as well as true recital of the wonderful progress the colored citizens of that city have made in the past 25 years through group thought and action. Same told of the ambitious program upon which these people have embarked for the new year. The story as told in the Herald is reprinted below:

In a recent address to the Durham Negro Business League, Secretary Burke Hobgood, of the chamber of commerce, stated that the great difference between the Negro of Durham and the Negro of many other cities is that the Negro of Durham is an asset rather than a liability to this community. It is a fact that Durham has set the pace in commercial and industrial development of the American Negro.

For many years Durham has been blessed with having Negro leaders with a vision and the courage to bring it to a successful fulfilment. Ever since the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance company was organized many years ago the eyes of the state have been upon the Durham Negro, for the organization of the company was something new in the realm of the business. Since that time there has been steady progress in practically all directions. In building, the Negro is doing his part, in the conduct of business he is making a success, and in public movements he is sharing his part of the burden and responsibility.

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The Y. W. C. A., the public schools, colored library, the Business Men's League, a Negro theatre corporation, Building and Loan association, and many other things have their places in the order of things and the program of definite accomplishments.

### Pinned Faith Here

In discussing the tendency of Negroes to go North, C. C. Spaulding, one of the city's leading Negroes, said that, "Durham today offers the greatest opportunity for the Negro man and women that can be found anywhere in this country. At different times within the last 25 years I have watched tendencies among professional business groups of my people to go, first North, and then West. During that same 25 years my associates and myself continued our program here in the South. I believe sincerely that what we have accomplished in Durham could not have been duplicated in any other section of the country. I believe Durham will be the first city in North Carolina within the next five or 10 years," and he declared that the Negroes will do their share of the work in boosting and pushing Durham forward.

Progress of the Negro — 1926.

# Phenomenal Advancement Made By Race

Chicago, March 10—The remarkable development of Negro education within recent years has affected the educational polic y of religious denominations supporting Race schools in that they are no longer called upon to provide educational facilities thruout the whole South, but rather in certain particular though no less important areas. Equally has it become necessary that the denominational institutions for Negroes working in these areas be adequately supported and that their work co-ordinate with that being done in other sections by state legislatures.

This is the burden of the report of a commission consisting of President Arlo A. Brown, University of Chattanooga; Dr. Thomas F. Holgate, Northwestern University; Professor Willis J. King, Gammon Theological Seminary, and President John L. Seaton, Albion College, which was appointed last May by the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church to study its Negro institutions. The recommendations of the committee covered, broadly, three principles:

(a) There shall be, in the main, but one educational institution in any state, except in the case of a state like Texas, which stretches over a wide territory and where there is reason to hope for substantial and adequate local support.

(b) The work of the schools should be so concentrated as to have the least loss of energy, and to that end no school should cover more than six years of work. There may be exceptions but the principle should be as here stated to be worked out as rapidly as possible.

(c) Teacher training should be emphasized in all the schools as a means calculated to render the best service to the whole community. Some schools ought to place their chief emphasis here.

A review of the achievements of the Negro since Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation shows that in numbers the Negro has trebled, his homes have incrased from 12,000 to 700,000; his business men, which were 4,000 then, number 70,000 now and he operates 920,000 more farms than he did sixty years ago.

Negro insurance companies have an income of $10,000.000 annually, where they did not exist sixty years ago. Further, illiteracy has decreased from 90 to 10 per cent. To his educational credit he has 48,000 teachers, 8,000 physicians, 500 dentists, more than 800 lawyers and almost 300 authors, editors and reporters. Ten thousand Negroes are college graduates, and sixty of this number are Phi Beta Kappas.

Negro churches have increased from 700 to 47,000 and church property $1,500,000 to $100,000,000.

SYRACUSE N. Y. TIMES
FEBRUARY 26, 1926

## SIXTY YEARS OF PROGRESS

(Rochester Hearold)

Just sixty years ago, it is pointed out by the Tuskegee Messenger, slavery was abolished in the United States. In that time the Negro residents of the United States, have made greater progress than ever has been achieved by any other group of people in a similar period, not even excepting the Japanese. Although that statement may appear extreme, a glance at the figures seems to bear it out in every particular.

Starting with little, American Negroes now own 700,000 homes and operate a million farms. They conduct 70,000 businesses, and their aggregate wealth is estimated at more than two billion dollars. There are more than seventy banks owned and operated by Negroes, with $6,250,000 capital and $20,000,000 resources. Their annual business approximates $100,000,000. There are thirty-five Negro life insurance companies with approximately $200,000,000 insurance in force. One Negro fire insurance company has nearly $10,000,000 insurance in force.

Thousands of patents have been issued to colored inventors. Approximately a third of a million Negroes are classed as skilled workers. When slavery was abolished, ninety per cent of all Negores in America were illiterate Today only twenty per cent cannot read and write. In the United States are more than 10,000 Negro college graduates, and sixty have won Phi Beta Kappa scholarship honors. Negro poets, authors, painters, actors and musicians have won national and international fame. Professor George Carver, Negro chemist, has developed hundreds of products of the utmost value to agriculture and industry.

It was perhaps a review of these marvelous facts that caused a Southern white citizen of high standing to remark not long ago that the "Negro is not a menace to America. He has proved himself worthy of confidence. He has been and may continue to be a blessing. He only needs unnecessary barriers removed from his way, and a chance to demonstrate that, under God, he is a man and can play a man's part." Undoubtedly it was a realization of these facts that led many white Southerners to give active aid to the raising of the Hampton-Tuskegee fund, by which the great gift of Mr. George Eastman of this city was obtained for those Negro schools.

Certainly a people that can help itself as the American Negro group has done since the Civil War is deserving of friendly aid and encouragement.

NEW YORK CITY JOURNAL
APRIL 21, 1926

# PROHIBITION HELD AID TO NEGRO RACE

By Universal Service.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—Thanks to prohibition, the neroes of this country are becoming home-owners and, by education, are getting an emancipation from ignorance that will be helpful in making them fine citizens.

Such was the view expressed to the wet and dry hearing by Dr. I. Garland Penn, of Cincinnati, field secretary of negro schools and colleges of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Dr. Penn said:

"The negro is one-tenth of the population of the United States and, as such, he is absolutely and unqualifiedly for the observance of the Constitution and enforcement of the law.

"He owns more homes and better homes since prohibition came than ever before. In Georgia, he now owns $48,233,541 worth of property; in Virginia, $68,354,407; in North Carolina, $102,435,004.

"As a traveler and observer, I have seen fer negroes drunk. It is an exception to see one. Bootlegging among negroes is among the lowest elements of the race and in many cases is the long arm of a white bootlegger.

"Constructive work is up hill, so that the prohibition amendment ought to have at least as long to test its constructive work as the saloon had to destroy and tear down."

# REPO. SHOWS PHENOMENAL ADVANCEMENT MADE BY RACE

## Investigating Commission Finds Remarkable Development Of Colored Education Since 1865. Progess In Social, Political And Economic Fields. Big Increase In Wealth.

## ILLITERACY HAS FALLEN FROM 90 TO 10 PER CENT

CHICAGO, Mar. 10.—The remarkable development of Negro education within recent years has affected the educational policy of religious denominations supporting Race schools in that they are no longer called upon to provide educational facilities thru out the whole South, but rather in certain particular though no less important areas. Equally has it become necessary that the denominational institutions for Negroes working in these areas be adequately supported and that their work co-ordinate with that being done in other sections by state legislatures.

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sixty of this number are Phi Beta Kappas.

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## NEGROES AND WEALTH

HERE are some facts and figures which should interest Negroes in Delaware.

The present estimated wealth of Negroes in the United States is $2,000,000,000, according to a recent survey made for the Research Section of the American Sociological Society by Dr. Monroe N. Work, of Tuskegee Institute.

The wealth of the group, in 1912, was estimated at $700,000,000.

The race also has made decided gains in the matter of health. The death rate, which was 22.9 per thousand in 1912, has now fallen to 15.7, or a decerase of 31 per cent.